

Amendments to the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) A method for producing a chlorinated hydrocarbon compound represented by general formula (2):



(where n is an integer of 1 to 12; m and k each represent an integer of 0 to 25; j is an integer of 1 to 10; R¹ represents an atom selected from the group consisting of chlorine, bromine, iodine, oxygen, nitrogen, sulfur, and phosphorus, and R¹ may be the same or different when m is 2 or more; a j-valent group represented by C_nR¹_mH_k has no tertiary carbon-hydrogen bond; and R² and R³ each represent a saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 5 carbon atoms or a saturated aliphatic hydrocarbon group containing 1 to 5 carbon atoms having hydrogen atoms partially substituted with halogen atoms, and R² and R³ have no tertiary carbon-hydrogen bond), the method comprising:

allowing a compound represented by general formula (1):



(where m, n, k, j, R¹, R², and R³ are the same as above) to react in the presence of aqueous hydrochloric acid;

separating an organic layer by oil-water separation; and

bringing the separated organic layer into contact with a hydrogen chloride gas.

16. (Previously presented) The method for producing a chlorinated hydrocarbon compound according to Claim 15, wherein the compound represented by general formula (2) is produced from the compound represented by general formula (1) in the presence of an organic solvent and aqueous hydrochloric acid.

17. (Currently amended) The method for producing a chlorinated hydrocarbon compound according to Claim 16, wherein the organic solvent for producing the chlorinated hydrocarbon compound represented by general formula (2) from the compound represented by general formula (1) is selected from the group consisting of a saturated hydrocarbon solvent, an aromatic hydrocarbon solvent, or and a halogenated organic solvent.

18. (Currently amended) The method for producing a chlorinated hydrocarbon compound according to Claim 17 ~~16~~, wherein the organic solvent for producing the chlorinated hydrocarbon compound represented by general formula (2) from the compound represented by general formula (1) is at least one solvent selected from the group consisting of pentane, cyclopentane, neopentane, hexane, cyclohexane, heptane, methylcyclohexane, octane, norbornene, ethylcyclohexane, benzene, toluene, xylene, ethylbenzene, butyl chloride, and ethyl chloride.

19. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 16 ~~15~~, wherein the compound represented by general formula (1) is an aromatic hydrocarbon containing a ~~2-hydroxy-2-propyl~~ 1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl substituent.

20-22. (Canceled)

23. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 38 ~~20~~, wherein the metal hypochlorite is selected from the group consisting of potassium hypochlorite, sodium hypochlorite, calcium hypochlorite, barium hypochlorite, copper hypochlorite, and copper(II) hypochlorite.

24. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 38 ~~20~~, wherein the protonic acid is selected from the group consisting of hydrochloric acid, sulfuric acid, and acetic acid.

25. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 37 20, wherein the aqueous alkaline solution is an aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide or potassium hydroxide.
26. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 37 20, wherein a halogenated organic solvent is used for producing the compound represented by general formula (2) from the compound represented by general formula (3).
27. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 26, wherein the halogenated organic solvent used for producing the compound represented by general formula (2) from the compound represented by general formula (3) is a halogenated organic solvent selected from the group consisting of monochlorobenzene, dichlorobenzene, trichlorobenzene, ethyl chloride, ethylene dichloride, carbon tetrachloride, chloroform, methylene chloride, 1-trichloro-2-trifluoroethane, and trifluoromethylbenzene.
28. (Currently amended) The method according to Claim 37 20, wherein an aromatic hydrocarbon or aliphatic hydrocarbon organic solvent is used in the step of mixing the aqueous alkaline solution to produce the compound represented by general formula (1) and then performing separation by filtration, and also used for washing the resulting solid.
29. (Previously presented) The method according to Claim 28, wherein the aromatic hydrocarbon or aliphatic hydrocarbon organic solvent used in the step of mixing the aqueous alkaline solution to produce the compound represented by general formula (1) and then performing separation by filtration is a solvent selected from the group consisting of pentane, cyclopentane, hexane, cyclohexane, heptane, benzene, toluene, and xylene.

30-33. (Canceled)

34. (New) The method for producing a chlorinated hydrocarbon compound according to Claim 16, wherein the temperature during the reaction with the aqueous hydrochloric acid and the hydrogen chloride gas is 0°C to 30°C.

35. (New) The method for producing a chlorinated hydrocarbon compound according to Claim 16, wherein the hydrogen chloride molar content is not less than two equivalents based on the hydroxyl group molar content.

36. (New) The method for producing a chlorinated hydrocarbon compound according to Claim 16, wherein an aromatic-substituted alcohol represented by general formula (1) is at least one member selected from 1,4-bis(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)benzene, 1,3-bis(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)benzene, and 1,3-bis(1-hydroxy-1-methylethyl)-5-(*tert*-butyl)benzene.

37. (New) The method for producing a chlorinated hydrocarbon compound according to Claim 15, further comprising:

allowing a compound represented by general formula (3):



(where m, n, k, j, R¹, R², and R³ are the same as above) to react with an aqueous solution of a metal hypochlorite and a protonic acid; and

mixing the reaction mixture with an aqueous alkaline solution to yield the compound represented by general formula (1).

38. (New) A method for producing a chlorinated hydrocarbon compound represented by general formula (2) according to Claim 15 comprising:

subjecting a mixture having a chlorinated hydrocarbon compound represented by general formula (2) to solid-liquid separation, the mixture being produced by

reaction between an aqueous solution of a metal hypochlorite, a protonic acid, and a compound represented by general formula (3):



(where m, n, k, j, R¹, R², and R³ are the same as above);

mixing the resulting solid material with an aqueous alkaline solution to form a compound represented by general formula (1); and

allowing the resulting compound to react in the presence of aqueous hydrochloric acid.